

California Institute of Molecular Medicine

April 19, 2004

L. Blaine Lankford
US Patent & Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

re: Patent Application No. 09/991,583
Applicant: Syed Z. Salahuddin

Dear Mr. Lankford:

Thank you for our conversation concerning the above patent.

Originally I hired the law firm of Foley & Lardner to prosecute this patent application for me. On March 27, 2003, prosecution was transferred back to me and the address was changed to my office address.

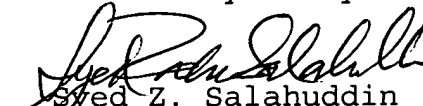
I understand that an Office Letter was sent sometime in July 2003. I simply did not receive this notice and I can find no record of it in my files.

I respectfully request that the abandonment be withdrawn and the application re-instated based on non-receipt of the Office Letter.

Alternatively, I respectfully petition for re-instatement due to unavoidable and unintentional delay in responding to the Office Letter due to my not receiving the notice. Please note that I have many patents issued to me as inventor and I would most definitely have responded timely to the Office Letter if I had received it.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this petition.

Yours very truly


Syed Z. Salahuddin
Applicant/Inventor